



EFSEC

**Washington State
Energy Facility
Site Evaluation
Council**



September 5, 2003

Dear Reader:

Enclosed for your review is the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the proposed BP Cherry Point Cogeneration Project. The proponent, BP West Coast Products, LLC, has requested to build a 720-Megawatt Gas-Fired Combined Cycle Cogeneration Facility in Whatcom County, Washington, and interconnect this facility into the regional power transmission grid. To integrate the new power generation into the transmission grid, Bonneville Power Administration (Bonneville) may need to re-build 4.7 miles of an existing 230-kV transmission line.

The Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC or Council) and Bonneville have completed this DEIS under contract with Shapiro and Associates. The analysis was undertaken to meet the direction of the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) for state and private lands, and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and other relevant federal laws and regulations for Federal permits and approvals.

The scoping phase of this project analysis has identified several issues that are addressed in the DEIS. A No Action and Action Alternative, and alternative components, including mitigation measures, are discussed in detail in the DEIS.

To ensure a complete analysis, we are asking you to help by reviewing this DEIS and providing comments. The comment period for this document closes on October 27, 2003.

We have scheduled a public meeting to discuss the findings in the DEIS. The public meeting will be held as indicated below. There will be an open house before the meeting, from 6:30 to 7:00 p.m. Comments will be received from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, October 1, 2003
Open House: 6:30 to 7:00 p.m.
Public Comments: 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
Blaine Performing Arts Center
975 H Street
Blaine, Washington, 98230**

For further information regarding this proposal, you may also contact Irina Makarow at (360) 956-2047 or Tom McKinney at (503) 230-4749. For copies of the DEIS, please contact Irina Makarow at (360) 956-2047, or you may access it on the Internet at www.efsec.wa.gov.

Please send your comments to either:

Allen Fiksdal, Manager
Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council
P.O. Box 43172
Olympia, WA 98504-3172

BP Cherry Point Project Comments
BPA Communications Office KC-7
P.O. Box 14428
Portland, OR 97293-4428

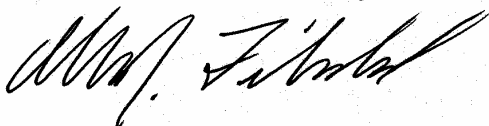
Comments on this document must be postmarked by October 27, 2003. Bonneville and EFSEC will review and respond to all comments and intend to publish a Final EIS during Winter 2003.

Please Note: Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record on this proposed action and will be available for public inspection.

Please remember, for a comment to be considered to have substance, it needs to:

1. Provide new information pertaining to the proposed action or an alternative;
2. Identify a new issue or expand upon an existing issue;
3. Identify a different way to meet the underlying need;
4. Provide an opinion regarding an alternative, **including the basis or rationale for the opinion;**
5. Point out a specific flaw in the analysis; or
6. Identify a different source of credible research which, if used in the analysis, could result in different effects.

Note to Reviewers: Reviewers should provide EFSEC and Bonneville with their comments during the review period of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. This will enable the lead agencies to analyze and respond to the comments at one time and to use information acquired in the preparation of the Final Environmental Impact Statement, thus avoiding undue delay in the decision making process.



Allen J. Fiksdal
Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council



Thomas C. McKinney
Bonneville Power Administration